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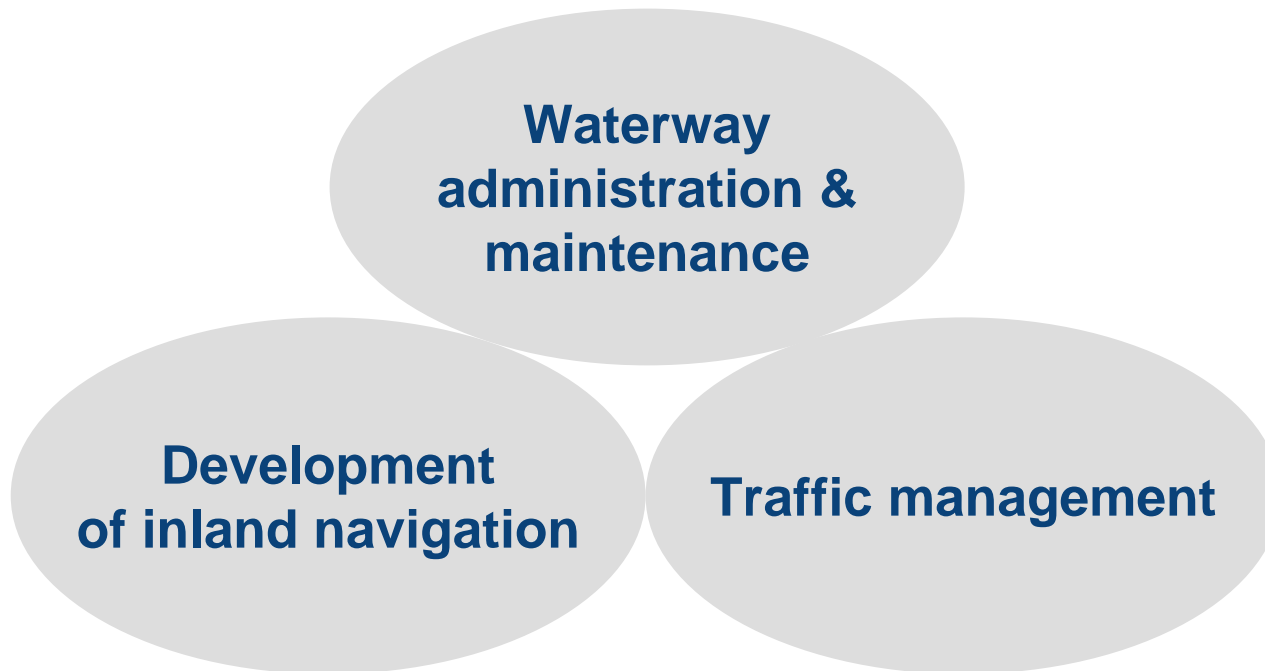
# Where are "Smart Rivers" going? A European Perspective

Michael Fastenbauer

Smart Rivers 2007 Conference, Louisville, Kentucky  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007

# via donau is ...

- ... the Austrian national waterway operator
- ... owned by the Ministry of Transport Innovation and Technology
- ... responsible for 350 km of the Danube waterway



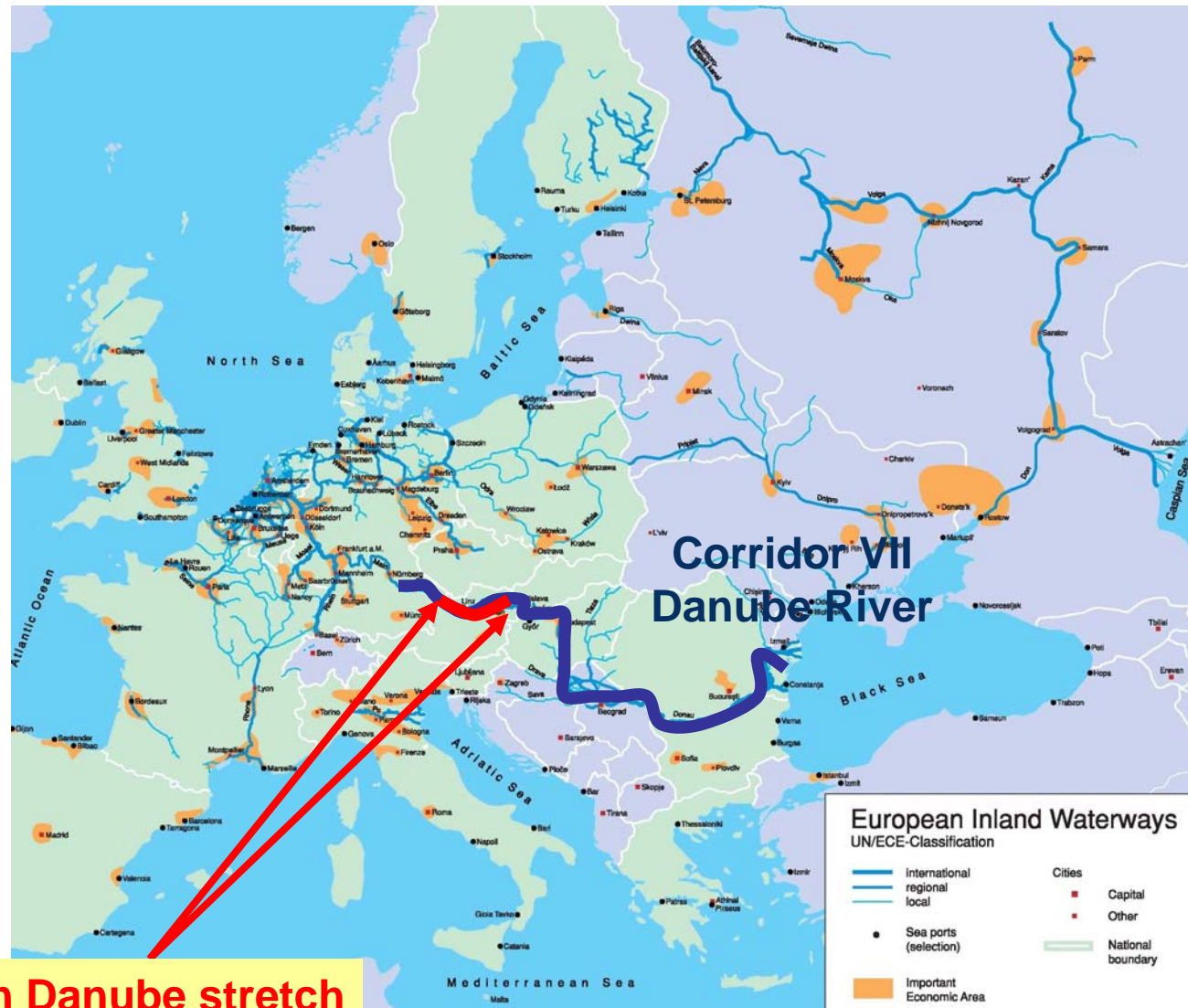
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# Danube waterway

## Pan-european Transport Corridor VII

within  
priority axis no. 18  
of TEN-T

**Austrian Danube stretch  
350 km**



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## ... Smart Rivers ...

# Some approximate statistics

Smart Rivers Conference	2005 Pittsburgh	2006 Brussels	2007 Louisville
Presentations	12	15	24
Specials	Round table (6 speakers)	Round table (12 speakers)	2 Luncheon speakers
Participants	57	84	➤ 184
(from other continents)	(7)	(17)	(> 20 + 2)

... a warm welcome and field tours always included

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# The majority of participants came ...

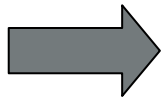
- from public organisations, e.g.
  - political functions
  - Ministries of Transport and Infrastructure
  - transport authorities
  - waterway administrations
- from the hosting continent

# Smart Rivers were organized ...

- by a few devoted individuals (backed by their organisations)
- without major stakeholders in the background
- focused on policy topics
- and with very limited participation of "the industry" (i.e. shippers, logistics providers, fleet operators, port and terminal managers).

# Answers and Questions

- Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) is business in a specific waterway network, not a global one.
- Different natural and procedural conditions for IWT business apply in different waterway networks.



- Why Smart Rivers?
- Which benefits justify the burden of participation?
- Who is in a position to guarantee proper organisation?



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**NAIADES-**

**An integrated European Action  
Programme for Inland Waterway Transport**

# Background

- The European Union (EU), based on its transport and environment policies, has Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) on its political agenda.
- NAIADES is the "Integrated European Action Programme for Inland Waterway Transport",
  - proposed by the EU administration (EC),
  - adopted by the Member States (Council) and
  - strongly supported by the European Parliament.

# NAIADES Action Programme

- Multi-annual Action Programme in order to foster transport by inland waterways in Europe (2006 – 2013)
- **Objective:** More freight transport on European inland waterways through increased competitiveness of inland waterway transport and integration of IWT into door-to-door logistic chains
- **Addressees:** EU Member States, industry, social partners, River Commissions, European Commission and other EU institutions

# NAIADES Action Clusters

1. Create favourable conditions for services
2. Stimulate fleet modernisation and innovation
3. Promote jobs and skills
4. Improve image and co-operation
5. Provide adequate infrastructure

# NAIADES – action clusters and measures (1-3)

## 1. SERVICES – Create favourable conditions for services

- **Attract new markets**
  - Investigate and implement new logistics concepts
  - Support liner services for intermodal transport
  - Improve co-operation between modes and within the sector
- **Encourage entrepreneurship**
  - Attract newcomers
  - Facilitate access to finance for SMEs
- **Improve administrative and regulatory framework**
  - Abolish administrative barriers to IWT development
  - Ensure a level playing field/avoid competition distortions
  - Improve co-ordination between relevant public services

## 2. FLEET – Stimulate fleet modernisations and innovation

- **Improve logistics efficiency, safety and environmental performance of IWT**
  - Support liner services for intermodal transport
  - Develop and facilitate use of innovative vessel concepts and technologies
  - Encourage use of safety-enhancing technologies
  - Encourage use of eco-efficient engines and renewable energy sources
  - Develop refit concepts for existing vessels

## 3. STAFF – Promote Jobs and skills

- **Attract workforce**
  - Improve working and social conditions
  - Stimulate labour mobility
  - Create awareness and improve career
  - Enhance cooperation regarding mutual
- **Invest in human capital**
  - Preserve education and training
  - Stimulate life-long learning
  - Enhance entrepreneurial skills

# NAIADES – action clusters and measures (4-5)

## 4. IMAGE – Improve image and cooperation

- **Promote inland navigation as a successful partner in business**
  - Support and coordinate promotion activities
  - Influence logistics decision-making by public relations
- **Set up and expand EU IWT promotion and development network**
  - Set up national promotion and development structures
  - Provide political, practical and financial support for promotion centres
  - Appoint national focal points within administrations
  - Integrate national promotion structures and focal points into a European network
- **Monitor trends and developments within the IWT market**
  - Harmonise collection of data at all levels
  - Ensure availability of compatible source data

## 5. INFRASTRUCTURE – Provide adequate infrastructure

- **Improve multi-modal network**
  - Maintain and improve the European IWT network
  - Foster the mutual understanding of multi-purpose use of waterways
  - Encourage the development of port and transshipment facilities – also in candidate and associated countries
  - (Re)develop industrial sites nearby waterways
- **Implement River Information Services**
  - Support and co-ordinate development and implementation of RIS in Europe



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# Current status of NAIADES

# NAIADES implementation so far

- several achievements in harmonisation of legislation  
(e.g. technical requirements for vessels, RIS standards)
- two policy-related reports available early 2008  
(Funding Handbook, Screening Administrative Barriers)
- funding programmes available  
(e.g. Marco Polo, TEN, FP7, DG TREN)
- work in progress  
(e.g. IWT Innovation Fund, harmonisation of rules for boatmaster certificates and manning requirements, etc.)
- creation of a platform to support NAIADES implementation  
(expected early 2008, financed by EC, key stakeholder involvement)



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**Where are "Smart Rivers" going?**

# Basic options for the future

- extend the list of conference topics  
(technology for vessels and waterways, etc.)
- extend the participating community  
(technology suppliers, etc.)
- extend the geographical scope  
(include Asia, e.g. China, Korea, India, Russia)
- bind it to PIANC (and/or other existing organisations)

OR

- NOT (keep current scheme stable)

OR

- NOT AT ALL

# Smart Rivers Conferences ...

- have created a platform for US - EU dialogue,
- highlighted the differences in administrative, political and economical context between EU and US,
- might get high-level EU support through NAIADES,
- shall continue taking into account the participant's primary interests,
- are welcome 2009 in Europe (e.g. in the Danube area or in Germany),
- taking into account the limited availability of participants from industry.

# Smart Rivers are going next time to be ...

- on the Danube or in Germany 2009 - or not
- part of EU's NAIADES implementation - or not
- again policy-focused - or not
- concentrated on EU/US dialogue - or not
- supported by a major organisation - or not
- again a European event with US guest speakers - or not

**HINT:**

**There are breaks foreseen -  
use them for discussion!**

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